

Delegation of Kyrgyzstan

**STATEMENT BY
THE DELEGATION OF THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC AT THE
948th MEETING OF THE OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

18 April 2013

Mr. Chairperson,

We are pleased to welcome to the OSCE Mr. Yury Fedotov, Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and Director-General of the United Nations Office at Vienna, and thank him for his interesting and informative report.

On behalf of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic I should like to express my gratitude to the UNODC for the assistance it has been providing my country since 1994 within the framework of the broad mandate of that organization. The UNODC is engaged in Kyrgyzstan in implementing a broad spectrum of initiatives ranging from the development of the country's potential and the fight against corruption to the provision of assistance in developing medical services specially designed for drug-dependent patients.

Eight national projects under the auspices of the UNODC are currently under way in Kyrgyzstan. One of the key projects is the one on "Strengthening the State Narcotics Control Service under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic", which involves the strengthening of the infrastructure of that agency by improving its operational, investigative, analytical and logistical potential.

Another important and timely initiative was the implementation of the project "Support for the Reform of the Prison System of the Kyrgyz Republic". This project envisages a comprehensive approach, which includes further advances and developments as regards legislation, the improvement of the managerial skills of prison staff and of the conditions of detention, more effective social reintegration of prisoners, and also assistance in working out a strategy for the further reform of the prison system in the Kyrgyz Republic.

In addition to the national projects, Kyrgyzstan is participating in the regional and global projects of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime – specifically, within the framework of the regional programme to support efforts to combat narcotics in Afghanistan, launched in December 2011 under the initiative of Mr. Fedotov and the Central Asian Regional Information and Coordination Centre (CARICC), which was established under an initiative of the UNODC and designed to co-ordinate at a regional level the States' efforts to combat the illicit traffic in narcotic drugs.

Co-operation with the UNODC is of priority importance for the Kyrgyz Republic. On the whole, our co-operation is developing and strengthening steadily, this having become particularly noticeable with the accession of Yury Viktorovich to the post of head of the UNODC in 2010. We are currently working on the signing of the UNODC's Integrated Country Programme (the first of its kind in Central Asia), which provides for the carrying out of new projects within the framework of the three components of the Programme – 1) illicit traffic in narcotic substances, the fight against organized crime, and border management; 2) the criminal justice system and the countering of corruption; 3) harm reduction and combating HIV and AIDS.

In the light of what I have just said, I should like on behalf of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic to thank the donors to the UNODC projects being carried out in my country, specifically the European Union, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation, the United States of America, Japan and our other partners. We highly value your support and are counting on further fruitful co-operation.

Mr. Chairperson,

Speaking of the drug situation in the Kyrgyz Republic, I should like to note that we are continuing to experience the devastating consequences of the drugs traffic originating in Afghanistan. In the light of the danger posed by the threat of narcotic drugs, the efforts of the law enforcement agencies of the Kyrgyz Republic are aimed at solving the tasks connected with ensuring border security and combating terrorism and organized crime, *inter alia* having to do with the illegal circulation of narcotic drugs, all these tasks being interrelated and requiring joint efforts.

The operations of the narcotics mafia are of a subversive nature. A growing number of citizens are becoming involved in the illicit trade in narcotic substances. Corruption based on the drugs trade is spreading to an ever larger number of law enforcement officials, who instead of fighting this evil are contributing to the spread of the narcotics business both through direct participation and by aiding and abetting these criminal activities.

At the same time, major developed countries are involved in the global narcotics trafficking process, providing as they do large markets for these drugs. We have a clear understanding of the global nature of the threat posed by this challenge so that we view seriously the activity of these countries in the international network established to counter the drugs threat.

Mr. Chairperson,

As you know, this year the Kyrgyz Republic holds the chairmanship of the Collective Security Treaty Organization and of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation. Kyrgyzstan plans to hold summit meetings of these organizations at the highest political level. Our Republic will become a kind of strategic decision-making centre, with respect among other things to issues involved in ensuring regional security and countering the illicit circulation of narcotic substances. It is altogether logical that these decisions will be taken in light also of the 2014 factor.

In conclusion, I should like once again to express my sincere gratitude to Mr. Yury Fedotov, the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,

for the unfailing support shown to the Kyrgyz Republic and to wish him every further success in his responsible work for the benefit of the international community.

Thank you for your attention.